



# **USDA Forest Service National Forests in Alabama Talladega National Forest Public Notice**

## **Prescribed Burn**

(Heflin, AL) January 22, 2024---- USDA Forest Service federal fire management specialists are planning to conduct a prescribed burn (controlled burn) on approximately 790 acres today, 11 miles north of Heflin in the Pilgrim's Rest area located on the Talladega National Forest – Shoal Creek Ranger District.

Prescribed burns are low-intensity, prescribed fires ignited by trained personnel to remove excess fuels, such as vegetation and dead wood, that would enable wildfires to burn hotter and longer.

During today's prescribed burn, Forest Service Roads 555 forms the burn boundary and should be traveled with caution. The public may notice Forest Service fire crews and equipment. Smoke may also be visible on Forest Service roads 552 and 549 northwest of the burn area. The wind is expected to be out of the southeast and will carry the smoke to the northwest.

As the temperatures cool later today, the smoke may begin to settle down the Terrapin Creek drainage. Some settling may also occur around the general area of the burn.

If encountering smoke on roadways, please slow down, turn on your low-beam headlights and use caution when encountering prescribed burning operations and smoke.

Prescribed fire plays an important role in the health of forest ecosystems. Applying prescribed fire on the land at the right place, at the right time, under the right conditions benefits the land and the surrounding communities.

*For additional information,  
Contact the Shoal Creek Ranger District  
at (256) 362-2909. Or visit [www.fs.usda.gov/alabama](http://www.fs.usda.gov/alabama)*